



Chris Saeger <csaeger@westernvaluesproject.org>

FOIA USGS 2018-00114 - Status Update

1 message

Freedom of Information Act, GS-D-EI_ <foia@usgs.gov>
To: Chris Saeger <csaeger@westernvaluesproject.org>

Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 4:56 PM

Good Afternoon Mr. Saeger,

We sincerely apologize for the delay in our response due to the lapse in appropriations resulting in a partial shutdown of the federal government. As of Monday, January 28, 2019, we began the process of resuming normal operations under a continuing resolution (CR) funding the federal government that is set to expire at 11:59 p.m., on Friday, February 15, 2019. We are hopeful that an agreement will be reached to fund the government for the remainder of the fiscal year, and we will avoid a further lapse in appropriations.

As of yet, we have been unable to make a determination on your request, USGS-2018-00114; however, we will coordinate an [Awareness Review](#) with the DOI senior officials to review the records associated with your request. After the DOI completes their review, we will respond to you. We anticipate that we will complete a final response to you by COB **February 15, 2019**. However, this date is subject to change as it is possible the DOI senior officials may request additional time for review, or due to lapse in appropriations.

Although we hope that you will wait so that we can complete our review process, please note that you may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison and FOIA Officer, Mr. Brian May. He can be reached at:

U.S. Geological Survey
FOIA Public Liaison
[5522 Research Park Drive](#)
Baltimore, Maryland 21228
Telephone: (443) 498-5521
Fax: (443) 498-5510
Email: foia@usgs.gov

You may also seek dispute resolution services from the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). If you choose to contact OGIS, you may do so in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services
National Archives and Records Administration
[8601 Adelphi Road](#) - OGIS
College Park, Maryland 20740-6001
Telephone: (202) 741-5770
Toll-free: 1 (877) 684-6448
Fax: (202) 741-5769
Email: ogis@nara.gov
Web: <https://ogis.archives.gov>

Please note that you may file an appeal with the Department's FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer regarding this delay. If you choose to appeal this delay, you may do so anytime between now and the date we make our determination on the FOIA request. Appeals arriving or delivered after 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, will be deemed received on the next workday.

Your appeal must be made in writing. You may submit your appeal and accompanying materials to the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer by mail, courier service, fax, or email. All communications concerning your appeal should be clearly marked with the words: "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." You must also include with your appeal copies of all correspondence between you and USGS concerning your FOIA request, including your original FOIA request and USGS's response. Failure to include with your appeal all correspondence between you and USGS will result in the Department's rejection of your appeal, unless the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer determines (in the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer's sole discretion) that good cause exists to accept the defective appeal.

Please include your name and daytime telephone number (or the name and telephone number of an appropriate contact), email address and fax number (if available) in case the FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Officer needs additional information or

clarification of your appeal.

DOI FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office Contact Information

Department of the Interior
Office of the Solicitor
[1849 C Street, N.W.](#)
MS-6556 MIB
Washington, D.C. 20240
Attn: FOIA/Privacy Act Appeals Office
Telephone: (202) 208-5339
Fax: (202) 208-6677
Email: FOIA.Appeals@sol.doi.gov

Please note that using OGIS services does not affect the timing of filing an appeal with the Department's FOIA & Privacy Act Appeals Officer. We regret the delay and appreciate your consideration in this matter. For more information on FOIA Administrative Appeals, you may review the Department's FOIA regulations at [43 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart H](#).

If you have any questions, please contact me by phone at (650) 329-4035 or by email at foia@usgs.gov.

Thank you for your continued patience while we process your request.

Sincerely,
Judy Cearley
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U.S. Geological Survey
Department of the Interior
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